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UM students float, study Montana rivers this spring

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University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "UM students float, study Montana rivers this spring" (1982). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 7350.
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UM STUDENTS FLOAT, STUDY MONTANA RIVERS THIS SPRING

MISSOULA--

Floating on Montana's rivers has long provided recreation and transportation, and this spring it also will become a method of study for about 30 University of Montana students.

Several UM faculty members have joined together some of their spring quarter courses that concern rivers, water and their social effects into a new interdisciplinary program titled "Rivers and Civilization," sponsored by the UM Wilderness Institute.

Applications for the program are due by March 5 and may be obtained by writing or calling the Wilderness Institute, Room 297, UM Forestry Building, 243-5361.

The 13-credit program will include at least three major weekend float trips on the Blackfoot, Missouri and Flathead Rivers. The students will study the rivers and apply what they have learned in the classroom. Participants also may earn additional credits through arrangement with the professors or outside the program.

Topics in science to be studied include river ecology, aquatic biology, riparian ecosystems, river and wildland watershed management, river conservation and development. Also to be studied are topics in the humanities like the cultural relationships between rivers and primal people, wholistic health and contemporary society's attitudes toward river life.

(over)

UM Students Float--add one

UM faculty teaching the program courses will be Dr. Robert R. Ream, associate professor of forestry; Dr. Thomas H. Birch, assistant professor, and Roger Dunsmore, associate professor, both in philosophy; Dr. Mary Birch, associate professor of social work; and Jay H. Vest, teaching assistant in forestry.

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